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Statistics about clerks in the Revenue Secretariat.

* 226 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of clerks in the Revenue Secretariat belonging to each of these communities, namely, Brahmans, Backward Classes and Harijans (separate figures for men and women clerks); and

(b) how many of them are at present under emergency provisions?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—

		Men.	Women.
" (a)	Brahmans	8	3
	Backward classes	12	..
	Harijans	..	..
" (b)	Brahmans	..	3
	Backward classes	2	..
	Harijans	..	.. "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Question No. 227."

(Hon. Members Sri Nagarajan and Sri Vinayakam stood up in their seats.)

MR. SPEAKER :—" We are now on the next question. I looked on all sides and no hon. Member stood up, and, therefore, I passed on to the next question."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know you are perfectly right. But it is the usual practice to give preference to the hon. Member who gave notice of the question to put supplementaries first. So we thought . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member who put the question did not get up in his seat to put supplementaries. I looked on all sides and no other hon. Member stood up. Therefore, I passed on to the next question."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" The reason why we did not stand up was we did not want to stand up like school boys."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Now we are on the next question."

Appointment of an I.C.S. Officer as the Chief Conservator of Forests.

* 227 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM (on behalf of Sri M. Dharmalingam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the necessity for appointing an I.C.S. Officer as Chief Conservator of Forests?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government decided to appoint an I.C.S. Officer as the Chief Conservator of Forests in the hope that the administrative efficiency of the Forest Department will be improved."

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Dr. K. B. MENON :—" Sir, when is the term of the present incumbent expected to expire? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The present incumbent is not given any term, Sir. He is there for the present."

Sri KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" Sir, May I know for how long the present incumbent was holding the post and may I also know from the Hon. Minister from his experience of the present administration, whether it is satisfactory or otherwise? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I think he has been holding the post for nearly one year and I can say that considerable arrears have been disposed off. But whenever a suitable and technically qualified officer is available, we will go in for him."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, the justification for the appointment of the I.C.S. Officer was to tone up the administration of the department. May I know whether Government had reports that before the officer was appointed, there was lack of this quality in the department, namely, there was corruption? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I did not say there was toning up the administration of the department. Before this I.C.S. Officer took charge, there was an officer of the Indian Forest Service holding the post. It was there brought to the notice of the Government that there was considerable delay in the disposal of even routine matters. Some of the references were reported to be pending with him even for three years. Then the Government appointed an administrative officer to go into the question. That officer found that the Chief Conservator of Forests had with him a bundle of papers pending with him for a long time without passing any orders. And there was no proposal from the Chief Conservator of Forests for the improvement of forests. Further, Sir, the Inspector-General of Forest Administration, Government of India, brought to the notice of the Government that the administration was considerably deteriorating. It was under these circumstances that an I.C.S. officer was appointed for this post."

Maternity Centre for Kambil, Chirakkal taluk.

* 228 *Q.*—Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to start a maternity centre in Kambil, Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar: and

(*b*) how many maternity centres are working in Chirakkal taluk and in which firkas?

The Hon. A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.